

Method and apparatus for coating web material

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Abstract of GB1073044

A method of coating a web with adhesive in the form of separate dots comprises passing the material around a roller adjacent a source of powdered thermoplastic resin, providing an electrostatic potential difference between the conducting spindle of the roller, formed of insulating material, and the resin source, the roller surface including a pattern of spots of conductive material each electrically connected to the spindle, and subsequently heating the material to fuse the resin to the material. If the material comprises synthetic fibres e.g. rayon or nylon, it is necessary to subject it to an antistatic treatment prior to coating to ensure the resin only adheres to those portions adjacent the spots of conductive material. Examples of thermoplastic resin given are polyethylene, polypropylene copolymer of ethylene and propylene or an E.V.A. resin (copolymer of ethylene and vinyl acetate). The roller preferably comprises a wooden roller mounted on a metal spindle, the wooden roller having radial holes drilled therein, and in each hole, a wire connected to the spindle, the end of the wire at the roller surface forming the conductive spot. The source of powdered thermoplastic resin may be a fluidised bed, an electrode being inserted into the container to provide the electrostatic potential difference. Alternatively the source may be a spray gun which scans the width of the roller. The resin may be cured by infra-red heaters. The product may be immediately laminated with other layers or cooled and subsequently laminated. The product is intended for use as an 'iron-on' material.

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